

FIRST YEAR OF WAR IN THE WEST

The first month and a half of the western campaign was made up of startling, swift moves. On September 11, after the defeat on the Marne, the Germans took up defensive positions along the Aisne river. The ten and a half months since then have seen a long deadlock.

The battle line of the Aisne and the Oise quickly extended northeast to the sea. Fighting has been continuous, with tremendous losses. The general situation has remained unchanged, gains of a few miles for one side at one point offset by minor gains for the enemy in other sectors.

At the beginning of August the Kaiser took possession of the little state of Luxembourg and demanded passage through Belgium to the Franco-Belgian frontier.

Permission to pass denied, Von Einem attacked Liege (August 4), while other German armies passed around the city and swept over the level Belgian roads at a terrific rate. The little Belgian army yielded Brussels and fell back to Antwerp and Ghent.

First Big Engagement.

Not until the Germans had almost reached the French border did the first important engagement take place. This is generally known as the battle of Mons-Charleroi (about August 20-28), but at the same time there was severe fighting along the whole line through Thionville in Lorraine and along the Vosges in upper Alsace, which the French had invaded with temporary success.

This battle resulted in defeat for the French and English.

While obtaining some successes in counter-attacks on the advancing Germans at Peronne and at Guise, the

held the position of the Yser river and canal.

From October 16 to November 10 was fought the desperate first battle of Ypres, when the Germans suffered enormous losses in attempts to break through the line in Flanders and reach Calais. They succeeded in pushing back the allies only a little and the invasion of Belgium by the Cossacks finally induced them to desist and send re-enforcements to Russia.

The Germans in September had performed the feat of pushing a salient into the French line south of Verdun, which terminated on the west bank of the Meuse river at St. Mihiel; while the French had taken the offensive with some success in Champagne at about the same time.

For the most part throughout the winter the fighting consisted of regular siege warfare, with heavy artillery combats and mine and counter-mine.

The flooding of the River Aisne from winter snows gave the Germans a chance to entrap the French troops on the north side of that river in the vicinity of Soissons for a considerable distance and kill or capture most of them (January 14).

Take Offensive in Spring.

With the spring, the French and English attempted to take the offensive at several points.

In the Vosges the dominating height of Hartmannswillerkopf was taken and retaken several times in sanguinary charges and finally remained in the hands of the French.

The salient of St. Mihiel was also subjected to tremendous French pressure on both "legs." The French succeeded in gaining a little ground, but the Germans, despite the apparent weakness of the sharp wedge they had driven into the French line, could not be dislodged and later succeeded in regaining some of the territory they had lost.

The British also reported "victories" at Neuve Chapelle and Hill No. 60, in

GREAT EVENTS OF THE WAR

June 28—Archduke and Archduchess Francis of Austria slain by Serbian assassin.

August 1—Germany declares war on Russia.

August 2—Germans forced enter Luxembourg. German demands passage through Belgium.

August 3—England announces state of war with Germany.

August 7—French invade southern Alsace.

August 8—British troops land in France and Belgium.

August 11—Germans pass Liege fort.

August 12—England and France declare war on Austria.

August 15—Austrians invade Serbia in force.

August 17—Beginning of five days' battle between Serbians and Austrians on the Jadar, ending in Austrian rout.

August 20—Germans enter Brussels.

August 22—Germans enter Namur and attack Meuse. Austria announces victory over Russians at Krasnik. Japan declares war.

August 24—British begin retreat from Mons.

August 25—French evacuate Muelhausen.

August 27—Louvain burned by Germans.

August 28—Battle off Heligoland, several German warships sunk.

August 29—Russians crushed in three days' battle near Tannenberg.

September 3—Russians occupy Lemberg.

September 5—Battle of the Marne begins. German right wing defeated and retreat begins.

September 7—Marneburg falls.

September 12—Germans retreat half on the Aisne.

September 20—Germans bombard Reims and injure the famous cathedral.

October 9—Antwerp occupied by the Germans.

October 12—Beer revolt starts.

October 14—Allies occupy Ypres. Battle begins on Yser.

October 16—Ostend occupied by the Germans.

October 18—First battle of Ypres begins.

October 24—Ten days' battle before Warsaw ends in German retreat.

October 27—Russians reoccupy Loda and Radom.

October 29—Turkey begins war on Russia.

November 3—German squadron bombards British coast.

November 5—Dardanelles forts bombarded.

November 6—Tunguska surrenders.

November 12—Russians defeated at Lipno and Kutno.

November 15—Russians defeated at Vlodavsk.

November 17—Austrian victory over Serbians at Valjevo announced.

December 3—Austrians occupy Belgrade.

December 5—Serbians defeat Austrians in three days' battle.

December 6—Germans occupy Loda.

December 15—Austrians evacuate Belgrade.

December 16—German cruisers bombard Scarborough and Hartlepool, 150 civilians killed.

December 20-26—Severe fighting on the line of the Meuse river.

January 3, 1915—French advance across Aisne north of Soissons.

January 14—French driven back across Aisne river.

January 24—Naval battle in North sea. German armored cruiser Bluecher sunk.

January 29—Russians occupy Tabris.

February 6—Failure of German attacks west of Warsaw.

February 8—Beginning of battle in East Prussia, ending in Russian defeat.

February 16—German formal submarine "blockade" on Great Britain begins.

February 24—Russians driven from Bukovina.

March 10—British make advance at Neuve Chapelle.

March 21—Zeppelin bombard Paris.

March 22—Surrender of Freymy to Russians.

March 31—Russians penetrate Dukla pass and enter Hungary.

April 5—French begin violent attacks on Mihiel salient.

April 14—Russians at Batopko, 20 miles inside Hungary.

April 15—Russians evacuate Tarnow.

April 22—Second battle of Ypres begins.

April 26—Allies leave Gallipoli peninsula, suffering fearful losses.

April 29—Allies announce recapture of Lorraine Met Saz and Hartmannswiller Kopf.

May 15—Berlin reports capture of 30,000 Russian prisoners in west Galicia and seizure of three villages near Ypres.

May 2—Russians fall back from Dukla pass.

May 7—Berlin reports capture of Tarnow with many Russian prisoners.

May 8—German submarine sinks the Lusitania, more than 1,100 lost. Russians in full retreat from Carpathians.

May 9—Germans capture Liban Baltic port.

May 12—French capture Ceremany, north of Arras, at great cost.

May 14—American first submarine note made public.

May 24—Italy declares war on Austria.

May 26—Italians invade Austria.

May 28—Italians take Gradina. Russians check Germans at Slesawa.

May 31—First German note on submarine reaches Washington. Zeppelins drop bombs in London.

June 3—Freemyl falls to Austro-Germans.

June 10—Germans capture Stanislaw.

June 11—Second U. S. submarine note to Germany made public. Italians take Montefalcone.

June 12—Italians take Gradina.

June 13—Austro-Germans occupy Toronegrod.

June 22—French take Netteral.

June 23—French announce occupation of the "Labyrinth," north of Arras.

June 24—Austro-Germans capture Lemberg.

June 26—Austrians cross the Dulester at Hallen.

June 28—Hallen falls.

July 3—Russians defeat German attempt to land at Wladan.

July 5—Russians defeat German battle of Gotland.

July 4—Italians take Tolmino.

July 5—Berlin announces gains in the Argentine forest.

July 10—Germans take Freymy, 50 miles north of Warsaw.

July 10—Germans advance at many points in Russia, taking Windau, Tukum, Rionde and Grobec.

July 20—Russians report sinking of 10 Turkish sailing vessels. German guns reach outer fort of Warsaw and damage the Lublin-Chelm railway.

July 21—Third U. S. submarine note goes to Germany.

July 22—Turkish-German expedition landed in Tripoli.

July 24—Germans take two forts near Warsaw.

July 26—Russians repulse Austrians in Galicia.

Cost in Men and Money.

The estimated casualties of the first year of the war are as follows: Tonic allies, 4,450,000; entente allies, 2,250,000.

The total cost of the first year of the war is estimated at \$12,500,000,000.

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Averse to Slang.

Just to show how much averse to slang he was, a small boy in a Chicago school explained to the teacher one day that he had been walking with a friend, but neglected to take off his hat when they met a lady both knew. His friend had nudged him, and whispered:

"Take off your lid, you simp!"

"What he should have said," explained the boy, was 'Remove your hat, you nut!'

The general sentiment is summed up in the words of a small boy, who ventured this:

"Anyway, it's only roughnecks who use slang nowadays."

Light Drinks.

Patience—It is said to attract attention a new electric drink mixer for soda fountains is equipped with a tiny light which illuminates the liquid in which it is working.

Patrice—Wonder if the electric light in the drink makes it any more expensive than the old-fashioned gas.

The Limit.

"I shall never speak to her again as long as I live."

"But you've said that often before."

"I know, but what else is there to say when a person becomes as angry as she makes me?"—Detroit Free Press.

A declaration of independence of coats in summer is in order.

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COUNTED PROFIT AND LOSS

Country Storekeeper Well Advised in Discontinuing Business for That Day, at Least.

The present generation is scarcely aware that at one time our one-dollar and two-dollar bills were marked with Roman instead of Arabic numerals. Therefore, when the youth left temporarily in charge of the general store in a small country town was approached by a stranger and asked for change for an eleven-dollar bill, he looked curiously at the greenback, but courteously acceded to the request. The owner of the store sauntered in some time later.

"Well, Sam, any business?" "Nothin' 'cept changin' a 'leven-dollar bill for a drummer," the boy answered unconcernedly.

The storekeeper started for the cash drawer, looked long and sorrowfully at the old two-dollar bill, then said sadly:

"Put up the shutters, Sam. We've done enough business for one day!"—Collier's Weekly.

Their Justification.

"Isn't it a shame the prices these New York restaurants charge?"

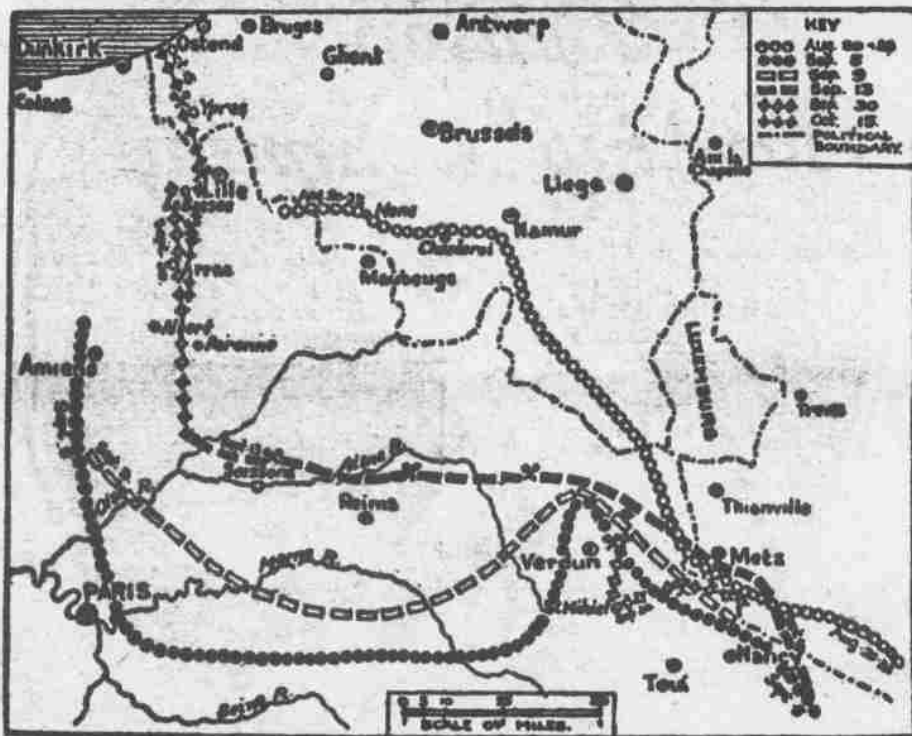
"But isn't it worth something to entertain the class of people they have to?"—Smart Set.

And So It Is.

"What do you consider the greatest human paradox?"

"A secret session of a woman's club."—Philadelphia Ledger.

MAP OF CAMPAIGNS IN THE WEST



French were obliged to fall back rapidly to the line of the River Marne.

On the left the French had withdrawn to below Paris and the westernmost German army, under Von Kluck, followed.

The garrison of Paris was put in thousands of motor cars and hurried on Von Kluck's flank. The latter was not taken entirely unawares and met the attack strongly, but at the same time the army of General Foch attacked the German army on Von Kluck's left and drove it back.

Driven Back From Paris.

The Germans had begun the battle with five armies in line. The withdrawal of the two farthest west now caused the retreat of the third, fourth and fifth in that order, each in turn finding its flank exposed by the withdrawal of the troops on its right. At the same time the movement on the east end of the German line was accelerated by a strong attack from the French fortified zone of Verdun.

The German retreat was as orderly as that of the French and English had been. The invaders took up an admirable defensive position. It ran just north of the Aisne river, on a series of bluffs, then just north of Chalons and through the wooded, rough regions of the Argonne and the Woivre, joining hands here with the troops besieging Verdun. The allies have tried this line in vain ever since.

Both combatants now tried to turn the west flank. Enormous bodies of cavalry. On the part of the French there was largely the desire to link up with the Belgians, now being attacked in Antwerp. The mighty siege guns of the Germans made short work of the Belgian coast, however, and it fell on October 9. The remnants of the Belgian army retreated along the sea coast and the Germans in a final rush reached Ostend (October 15).

Line Extended to the Sea.

The battle line of the Aisne was now extended to the sea, the Germans holding the important French city of Lille, while the allies kept Ypres in Belgium and, partly by flooding the lowlands,

Flanders. Whether these should be accounted successes for the allies is doubtful. The British suffered enormous losses and at Neuve Chapelle bungled affairs to the extent of shelling their own men who had taken German trenches.

The next development was the unexpected use of poisonous gas fumes by the Germans in attacks just north of Ypres. With this novel weapon they succeeded in taking several small villages and more than compensating for the British gains south of Ypres. The losses of the French, Canadians and British were severe, but they succeeded in stemming the German onslaught effectively a few miles back from their former position.

Begin Series of Attacks.

The German line makes a salient at Soissons, though not such a pronounced one as at St. Mihiel. The French now began a series of attacks on the upper side of this salient, to the north of Arras. Expending hundreds of thousands of shells, they time and again blasted away the barbed wire entanglements and concrete trenches, held by Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria's men, and then charged across the desolate ground for slight gains.

The fighting centered about the sugar refinery of Souchez and the great German work called the Labyrinth. Fighting went on in cellars and tunnels below the earth and the casualties were heavy. The French bent the German line and captured the Labyrinth, but whether the gains justified their sacrifice in human life is questionable.

In July, Crown Prince Frederick William's army attacked in the Argonne forest, west of Verdun, and succeeded in gaining several hundred yards of shattered woodland and capturing several thousand Frenchmen.

There were rumors that the Germans were re-enforcing for another great drive toward Calais or Paris, but the Teutonic campaign in the West continued to wait upon the crushing of the much weaker enemy in Poland.